



Date: October 15, 2007

To: Timothy Tait, Community Relations Project Manager

From: Sue Lewin, Northwest Valley Community Outreach Team

Subject: Documentation of September 2007 Public Open House for US 60 / Grand Avenue, 99th Avenue to 83rd Avenue Widening Final Design; Project No. 060 MA 148 H6690 01 D

On Wednesday, September 19, 2007, ADOT Communication and Community Partnerships in partnership with Valley Project Management and Environmental Planning Group (EPG) hosted a public open house for the US 60 / Grand Avenue Widening final design project. The meeting was held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Pine Room at Peoria City Hall. The purpose of the open house was to share and obtain public comment on the design plans, which were approximately 60 percent complete at the time of the meeting.

Meeting Preparation

Planning for the public meetings for this project was discussed at the monthly ADOT design progress meetings as well as a project team open house planning meeting, which was held at ADOT on September 12, 2007.

Meeting Notification. Because the project involved preparation of environmental documentation, ADOT placed a half-page meeting advertisement in *The Arizona Republic*, which was published on Saturday, September 1, 2007, in the Peoria Community section. A copy of the meeting advertisement is attached to this report. ADOT also sent the attached postcard meeting notice to everyone subscribed to the ADOT database to receive information on the US 60/Grand Avenue corridor. Community outreach team representatives also hand-delivered the postcard notices to all of the properties fronting Grand Avenue, between 99th and 83rd avenues, to ensure that businesses and residents that could potentially be impacted by construction would have the opportunity to learn about the project.

Media Outreach. The attached news release was prepared and distributed to local media. Key messages and talking points were distributed to key project team members to prepare them for inquiries from the media.

Meeting Summary

The meeting was conducted in an open house format, which included a brief slide presentation followed by a question and answer period. Presenters included ADOT Community Relations Project Manager Timothy Tait, ADOT Project Manager Michael Delleo, Jr., P.E. and URS Project Manager Bill Dehn, P.E. A copy of the slide presentation is attached for the project record.

After the Q&A, meeting attendees were invited to review project displays, and speak one-on-one with members of the ADOT project design team. A Spanish translator was available to assist with interpretation. Meeting displays included informational exhibit boards and project plans identifying the roadway alignment and right of way requirements. Handouts included copies of the US 60/Grand



Avenue Corridor Fact Sheet and comment cards. Copies of the ADOT Northwest Valley Summer 2007 Newsletter were also made available.

Eighteen citizens signed-in for the meeting, which was also attended by City of Peoria Council Members Joan Evans and Ron Aames. City of Peoria Public Works Director David Moody and Project Engineer Richard Costa also participated in the meeting. One comment card was returned at the meeting; however, ADOT allowed an additional 10 days for people to return comments via US Mail or e-mail. The comments on the one card received requested ADOT to acquire a building "to allow for expansion of the 91 Ave./Grand Ave. business's road [for] left and right turns." No subsequent comment cards were received by the close of the comment period.

At the meeting, ADOT and URS engineers and Right-of-Way Coordinator Pete Eno spoke with representatives from Sun City RV at 91st and Grand avenues and the auto-related business next-door, A-Peoria, regarding potential right-of-way impacts. Mr. Eno also spoke with the owner of Ed's Automotive at 9449 W. Grand Ave, who expressed interest in ADOT acquiring his entire property for the project. Mr. Eno informed him that all that is needed from the property is a temporary construction easement (TCE) to reconstruct the driveway, and a total acquisition could not be justified.

Following the meeting, ADOT received a hotline inquiry from the owner of the Cricket Communications business located at 9827 W. Grand Avenue. He said he had received the hand-delivered postcard for the meeting and wanted to know why this is the first he had heard about the project. He also wanted to know if and when the owner of the property he leases for his business had been notified about the project. According to environmental consultant Christine Jacobs-Donoghue (Logan Simpson Design) only the property owners adjacent to Grand Avenue within the project boundaries had been sent the project scoping letter, and the property at 9827 W. Grand Avenue is outside the project boundary. This information was relayed to the business owner.

Media Coverage. Cecilia Chan (*Arizona Republic*) attended the open house. She spoke with Tim Tait and Project Manager Mike Delleo about the scope and need of the project, costs and timelines, traffic volumes and potential issues. A short story was published about the project for the *Peoria Republic* (copy attached).

Attachments:

1. Meeting notices
2. Newspaper advertisement of record
3. News release
4. News article
5. Sample Comment card
6. Slide presentation (available on-line at:
7. (http://www.valleyfreeways.com/Highways/Valley_Freeways/US60/Grand_Avenue/PDF/091907_US60_99th-83rdAve_OH_Presentation_Final.pdf)
8. Handout (fact sheet – current version available on-line at:
http://www.valleyfreeways.com/Highways/valley_freeways/US60/Grand_Avenue/PDF/062008_US60_FactSheet.pdf)



You Are Invited

Open House US 60 (Grand Avenue)

99th Avenue to 83rd Avenue Widening Project

The public is invited is invited to attend a public information meeting Wednesday, Sept.19 to review and comment on the final design plans for the US 60 (Grand Avenue), 99th Avenue to 83rd Avenue widening project, which will widen this section of US 60 from four to six lanes. Representatives from the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) will be present to answer your questions and address your concerns on a one-on-one basis after a formal presentation. Project information in the form of maps and displays will be available for viewing.

Sign Up for E-Notification
Receive electronic notification of public meetings and events by signing up for our e-mailing list at www.azdot.gov/ValleyFreeways.

Questions?
Hotline: 480.890.3055 (Para Español 480.529.3647)
Email: projectupdate@lewin-associates.com


Special Accommodations
To request special accommodations (e.g., translation to sign language) or this notice in alternate formats, contact Sue Lewin, Lewin & Associates, via phone: 480-890-0012, fax: 480-890-0013 or e-mail: slewin@lewin-associates.com. Please make requests as early as possible to allow time to make arrangements.


Wednesday, Sept. 19
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
(Presentation at 6 p.m.)
Peoria City Hall—Pine Room
8401 W. Monroe Street, Peoria, AZ
(South of Peoria Avenue, west of 83rd Avenue)

For additional technical and project information, or to submit comments in writing, please contact:
Timothy Tait
Northwest Corridor Community Outreach Team
c/o Lewin & Associates
1146 N. Mesa Drive, #102-298
Mesa, AZ 85201
ProjectUpdate@Lewin-Associates.com
480-890-3055



PROJECT No. 060 MA 148 H6690 01 D





Arizona Dept of Transportation
c/o Northwest Corridor
Community Outreach Team
1146 N. Mesa Dr. #102-298
Mesa, AZ 85201

Join Us



US 60 (Grand Avenue)

99th Avenue to 83rd Avenue

Widening Project

Wednesday, September 19, 2007
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
(Presentation at 6 p.m.)
Peoria City Hall—Pine Room
8401 W. Monroe Street, Peoria, AZ
(South of Peoria Avenue, west of 83rd Avenue)

(Actual size was 5-1/2" x 11".)

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**


OPEN HOUSE

**Final Design Plans for Widening
US 60 Grand Avenue,
99th to 83rd Avenues**

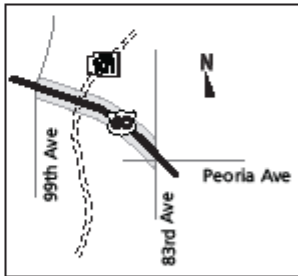
**Wednesday, September 19, 2007
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m:**

**City of Peoria City Hall – Pine Room
8401 W. Monroe Street, Peoria, AZ
(South of Peoria Avenue, west of 83rd Avenue)**

Presentation at 6 p.m.




The general public is invited to attend a public information meeting September 19 to review and provide comment on the final design plans for this project, which will widen this section of US 60 from four to six lanes. Representatives from ADOT will be present to answer your questions and address your concerns on a one-on-one basis after the formal presentation. Project information in the form of maps and displays will be available for viewing.



For additional technical and project information or to submit comments in writing, please contact Timothy Tait– Northwest Corridor Community Outreach Team, c/o Lewin & Associates, 1146 N. Mesa Drive, #102-298, Mesa, AZ 85201 or ProjectUpdate@Lewin-Associates.com. Phone: 480-890-3055. Written comments should be received by October 10, 2007.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons may request special accommodations such as translation to sign language by contacting Sue Lewin at 480-890-3055. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodations. This notice is available in alternative formats by contacting Sue Lewin at 480-890-3055.



PERRY POWELL
ADOT Phoenix Construction District Engineer

MICHAEL F. DELLEO, JR.
ADOT Project Manager

SAM ELTERS
ADOT State Engineer

THIS NOTICE IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.ADOTENVIRONMENTAL.COM

PROJECT No. 040 MM 140 000 00 01 0

For Immediate Release October 30, 2007
Contact: ADOT Media Relations
Phone: 1.800.949.8057

ADOT hosts public meetings November 7 on Grand Avenue improvements between Loop 101 and Loop 303

Northwest Valley residents can gather information and provide ideas about planned improvements to Grand Avenue (US 60) when the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) hosts a pair of public meetings on **Wednesday, November 7**. As ADOT continues to plan and build improvements under the voter-approved Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), next week's meetings will focus on the section of Grand Avenue between the Loop 101 and Loop 303.

The meetings will be held on November 7 at the following locations and times:

Fairway Center

10600 W. Peoria Avenue, Sun City
2-4 p.m.
Presentation at 2:30 p.m.

Valley Vista High School – Media Center

15550 N. Parkview Place, Surprise
6-8 p.m.
Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

ADOT staff is working on a Grand Avenue Feasibility Study to help prioritize projects to be recommended for construction to help meet the growing needs of the Northwest Valley. Public input – as well as engineering, construction costs and other factors – plays a major role in the study. The second phase of the RTP (fiscal years 2011-2016) includes \$64 million in available funding for future projects to improve the section of Grand Avenue between Loop 101 and Loop 303.

Projects recommended as part of the study would be in addition to the planned widening of Grand Avenue to three continuous lanes between Loop 303 and 99th Avenue, scheduled to begin in 2009.

Other planned improvements to Grand Avenue east of 99th Avenue include widening from two to three lanes in each direction between 99th and 83rd avenues beginning next year, along with future intersection improvements and other additional work planned in later phases of the RTP.

Both meetings will provide the same information. ADOT staff will conduct a brief presentation about potential projects in the study, followed by an open house where guests can view maps and other project information and speak with ADOT representatives.

Arrangements for special accommodations, or the meeting notice in alternative formats, may be made by contacting Sue Lewin at 602-295-3145 or slewin@lewin-associates.com.

Attachment 3: News Release

Additional information on this and other Regional Transportation Plan projects, visit www.azdot.gov/ValleyFreeways.

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Plans unveiled for Grand Avenue widening

Cecilia Chan

The Arizona Republic

Sept. 21, 2007 06:16 AM

Joan Read, who drives to work in Peoria, clamors for relief on Grand Avenue.

"It's very congested, especially at rush hour, " said the Sun City West resident. Read and a handful of residents attended a public presentation Wednesday in Peoria on plans to widen Grand Avenue between 83rd and 99th avenues.

The \$10 million project calls for adding an additional lane in either direction for a six-lane roadway. The Arizona Department of Transportation expects construction to begin next fall and finish in late summer 2009.

The project includes dual left-turn lanes for eastbound Grand to northbound 91st Avenue and a new right-turn lane for westbound Grand to northbound 91st Avenue.

"It's going to be a big improvement," Read said. "There is a need for more access to the (Loop) 101."

ADOT project manager Michael Delleo said if nothing happens the level of service on Grand Avenue would deteriorate.

This is especially true because of the West Valley's explosive growth, said ADOT spokesman Tim Tait.

"Grand Avenue is a busy arterial and will get more busy as communities grow," he said.

Daily car trips for a typical workday number 36,000 on Grand Avenue in the project area and are expected to increase to 57,000 daily trips by 2030, said Bill Dehn, vice president with URS Corp., an ADOT contractor.

"It's a vital link here in the Valley," Dehn said. "It provides connectivity from downtown to the Northwest Valley."

Grand Avenue also serves as a route to Wickenburg and Las Vegas, he added.

"This is sort of the start of a larger, comprehensive widening of Grand Avenue," Tait said. "Grand Avenue in the Northwest Valley will see significant improvements over the next several years."

Future components of the Grand Avenue project include widening the road to six lanes from 99th Avenue to Loop 303 and installing improvements for better traffic flow and safety on Grand from Loop 101 to Van Buren Street.

The project is part of the \$15.8 billion Regional Transportation Plan developed by the Maricopa

Attachment 4: News Article


Association of Governments. Voters in 2004 approved extending a half-cent sales tax to fund the plan.

The first phase, which encompasses 1.8 miles, is considered a routine project with minimal disruption, Tait said.

"It's a good project," he said. "It's adding capacity and for not a lot of pain.

"The Northwest Valley has been expecting this."

Attachment 5: Sample Comment Card

 ADOT	US Arizona Department of Transportation US 60 / Grand Ave. Widening, 99th Ave. to 83rd Ave. ADOT PROJECT No. 060 MA 148 H6690 01 D Public Open House – September 19, 2007
<h3>Comment Card</h3>	
<p>Thank you for attending tonight's meeting and for your interest in this program. The purpose of this Open House is to inform you about plans to widen US 60 / Grand Avenue to three lanes in each direction, and get your input on the plans. We hope you will take time to visit the displays and speak with our project team members.</p>	
<p>If you have comments or suggestions for ADOT that you would like to submit for the project record and further consideration, please write them on this card and return it to the reception table as you leave tonight. If you wish, you may also mail in your comments after the meeting. The address is printed on the opposite side of this card. The deadline to return comments to ADOT is September 28, 2007.</p>	
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<p><i>The following information is optional:</i></p>	
<p>Name: _____</p>	
<p>Street Address: _____</p>	
<p>Zip Code: _____</p>	
<p>Daytime Phone # (including area code): _____</p>	
<p>E-mail Address: _____</p>	
<p>Thank you for your participation and comments!</p>	